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FINAL GRADES

The News' sports team ranks the different elements of the Panther football after they claimed an OVC title for the second year in a row.

Page 8

COOL COMBOS

Eastern's Jazz Combos gives their final performance of the semester at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 3 in The Theatre of The Doudna Fine Arts Center. Admission for the concert is free.

Page 3



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THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Tuesday, Nov. 19, 2013

"TELL THE TRUTH AND DON'T BE AFRAID"

VOL. 98 | ISSUE 66



CHYNNA MILLER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Calexus Carrington performs during the Diva Drag show Monday in the Grand Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Junior University Union. The show's theme was "Over the Rainbow."

Drag queens dazzle at 'Over the Rainbow'

By Bob Galuski
News Editor | @BobGaluski

As Ceduxion Carrington put it, the show was about expressing individuality and promoting awareness.

Carrington, the mistress of ceremonies for the 2013 Diva Drag Show, strode on stage wearing a long black

dress to help kick off "Over the Rainbow," a drag show hosted by EIU Pride Monday.

And with her introductions, the night spiraled into a display of sparkling dresses, dazzling dance moves and promoting awareness for the LG-BTQA community.

Along with seven other performers

— all with names like B.P. Carrington, Leiloni Stars, Kalasia Karmichael, Sienna Mann and Calexus Carrington — they lit up the makeshift runway in the University Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

Each of the performers executed solo pieces to popular music by artists like Lady Gaga, Demi Lovato

and Destiny's Child.

The audience was able to show their love for each of the performers by giving them dollar bills.

"Give a dollar, because it's expensive to look this cheap," Ceduxion Carrington joked.

RAINBOW, page 5

Woman pleads guilty in DUI case

By Robert Downen
Administration Editor | @DEN_NEWS

A Bloomington woman pleaded guilty to four different counts on Monday of aggravated driving under the influence that killed an Eastern student in 2012.

Lauren Leffler, a 21-year-old Eastern student, was walking in her home town of Bloomington in the early morning on June 24, 2012 when Katie Lawson, then-23, ran a red light and struck her with her car at about 47 mph. According to witnesses, Lawson then immediately left the scene of the accident.

In court Monday morning, Lawson was described as "hysterical" as she pleaded guilty to four counts of felony aggravated driving under the influence, four counts of misdemeanor DIU, driving with a suspended license and failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident.

However, Lawson maintains her not guilty plea regarding the two charges of failing to report an accident. It is expected that a bench trial will examine those charges sometime this week.

Those charges, if convicted, would likely mean prison time for Lawson, as each carries sentences of anywhere from four to 15 year, to be served after the completion of any prison sentence stemming from the original driving under the influence charges.

DUI, page 5

Alarms go unnoticed in Greek Court

By Stacey Catterson
Staff Reporter | @DEN_News

Only three Sigma Sigma Sigma sorority members responded when the quiet fire alarm went off in their building at 5 a.m. on a Saturday morning earlier in the month.

Smoke and burning started the alarm system from the Sigma Kappa House. One room connects both the Tri-Sigma and the Sigma Kappa houses. Sigma Kappa members heard the alarm; most of Tri-Sigma living in the house did not.

The alarm system will be analyzed and have some testing worked on over Thanksgiving break.

ALARMS, page 5

Budget plans for steady tuition rates

By Emily McInerney
Staff Reporter | @DEN_News

With the recommendations from the Bond Revenue Committee, Housing and Dining will have no increase in room and board as well as no increase in tuition for the upcoming school year.

The 2014 to 2015 Housing and Dining budget was approved at the Board of Trustees meeting Friday. The board voted unanimously approved the budgets.

This will be the first time in about 38 years the rates will not increase from school year to school year.

Last year, the rates went up two percent, one of the lowest increases in over 35 years.

Student Representative Mitch Gurick said the lack of an increase will provide, "a leg up on the competition," regarding other colleges.

By keeping fees as low as possible more incoming students will be able to get an education they can afford.

Gurick said he believes all public

Approximate tuition rates around Illinois

- Eastern Illinois University: \$20,140
- Illinois State University: \$22,633
- The University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana: \$29,594-\$34,514

institutions should be aware of the overall costs and the amount of loans students have to take out will affect where they decide to enroll.

The goal is to keep lower fees so more students will want to come to Eastern over another, more expensive school. President Bill Perry said this decision creates another recruitment tool, as well. Parents can see the university is trying to create as little increases as possible.

Housing prices will remain between \$4,150-\$4,679, depending on the meal plan making the year's cost approximately \$8,996.

Tuition rates will remain at \$283 per semester credit hour, making a 15-credit semester \$4,245. All together, tuition and fees comes to \$11,144.

Illinois State University's 2014-2015 room and board rate is approximately \$9,624 and tuition and fees about \$13,009 for the year. In total, students attending Illinois State University the next school year will be paying roughly \$22,633 instead of Eastern's cost, which is \$20,140.

The University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana estimated their 2013-2014 costs to be between \$29,594-\$34,514.

Gurick said he believes not raising fees is a great marketing tool for Eastern because it shows the school believes in quality education.

He said the board was excited members of the administration found a way to work with the incoming students and was able to try to make college more affordable.

The university will have to make up the difference because the students are not paying extra but expenses for the school are rising.

Due to costs of food, electricity and other expenses rising, the university will pay the supplemental costs in order to keep the increase rate at zero.


The difference will come from money in the university's reserves—estimated at \$450,000. Mark Hudson, the director of Housing and Dining, said the money will be replaced by potential revenue earned from incoming students, creating a higher enrollment.

Students enrolling next school year will then be locked in to those rates for the next four academic years, meaning they will not pay above those rates for the next four years, provided through Illinois' "Truth in Tuition" law.

Emily McInerney can be reached at 581-2812 or ermcinerney@eiu.edu


Local weather

TODAY



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WEDNESDAY



Cloudy
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For more weather visit castle.eiu.edu/weather.

THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

"Tell the truth and don't be afraid."

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Mathematic Meeting



KATIE SMITH | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Students gather for a Math Energy Meeting Monday in the University Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union. Math Energy is an organization for pre-service teachers. The meetings give Eastern students ideas for teaching math.

Council reviews drunk-driving resolution, raises awareness

By Michael Spencer
City Editor | @tmskeeper

The Charleston city council will review a proclamation Tuesday that would declare December drunk driving awareness month.

Mayor Larry Rennels said as the holiday season approaches, city residents should stay off the road after consuming alcohol at winter festivities.

Rennels said 956 people were killed in Illinois during the year 2012 and the highest single month was December, which is why December was chosen for the month to raise awareness.

Rennels said the information came from the brief resolution issued by the Illinois Department of Transportation.

He also said the proclamation is expected to pass.

The council will also examine a resolution to allow the city to begin accepting applications for a grant program that helps support families

as they prepare their homes for the winter.

“(The resolution approves) a really nice program for people who need some help in getting their houses fixed up,” Rennels said.

The action will allow families that meet the need-based qualifications of the grant project to make repairs to their homes through the Single-Family Owner-Occupied Rehabilitations Program. According to the resolution, all documents regarding the program will be handled by the mayor’s office.

Additionally, the council will hold a vote to decide whether or not the city will begin processing the billing materials for the Kansas Fire Protection District.

Rennels said the district will send the records of each ambulance call to city hall. Each bill will be handled electronically and sent to both public and private insurers. The resolution does not say the handing over of this task will add anything significant to the city’s budget.

“They send to us the information about the ambulance trip sheets,” Rennels said. “That’s the information (on) the ambulance calls that they run, and of course it has the name and the insurance company of the individual that they served and what they did, and we actually fill out the forms electronically and send it to the insurance company.”

The council will also decide whether or not to approve a technical assistance agreement between the city and the Coles County Planning Commission that will cover \$7,000 worth of services from the department in addition to another \$2,100 resolution to set up a revolving fund program for the commission.

Any totals above the allotted sum will have to be approved by the council.

The meeting is at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday at City Hall.

Michael Spencer can be reached at 581-2812 or at tmspencer2@eiu.edu.

New restaurant opening exceeds expectations

By Stephanie Avalos
Staff Reporter | @DEN_News

Charleston residents found themselves waiting in line on Nov. 6 for the grand opening of Bamca, a Mexican restaurant that recently opened its doors on Fourth Street near Stu’s.

On opening day, after being in business for only four hours, Bamca had more than 120 people in line waiting to try their food.

Javier and Pedro Carrillo, the owners of the new restaurant, said they did not expect such a large turn out and were surprised when the line of patrons stretched out of the building and into the parking lot.

The restaurant is owned by both of the Carrillo brothers and they began planning the opening of their first restaurant a few years ago. They said they want customers to create

their own food and to be able to add what they want to the dishes they select.

“We want to make the food simple, fresh and make it homemade as much as possible,” Javier Carrillo said. He also said they use fresh ingredients every day.

They hope this is what brings customers back to their restaurant.

Bamca’s only location is in Charleston and they have several Eastern students working there now and expect a few more within the next few weeks. During the week, roughly 200 people came to eat and during the weekend around 300 people came in.

According to the owners, the most popular product they offer is the steak and chicken and they estimate that 60 percent of the customers buy the burritos and 40 percent

buy the bowls.

The two said they thought Charleston was the perfect place because it is a small town and the dining destination is unique. The owners wanted their burrito shop to be more of a Chipotle-style restaurant and the need for such a place is what brought their business to the city.

Hours of the restaurant will change within the next few weeks because they are still trying to get settled. In the future, the owners want to add a few more dishes to their menu after finding traction with their new business.

They hope to remodel the restaurant within the next year.

Stephanie Avalos can be reached at 581-2812 or at savalos@eiu.edu.

Auditions open for holiday play

Staff Report

To wrap up its final production of its 23rd season, the Charleston Alley Theatre will have auditions for “Miracle on 34th Street.”

Auditions are planned for 7 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday at the theater storefront, located at 718 Monroe Ave.

For the Charleston Alley Theatre’s performance, the production will be performed as a mock radio broadcast.

Those who cannot make the audition dates or times may contact the director, Duke Bagger at 345-7978 or 232-0719.

Roles for the performance include men and women for a variety of characters, as well as advertisement readers, since the performance will be a mock radio broadcast.

Rehearsals will be kept to a minimum and will not be as extensive as those that require memorization and complex staging.

The performance will be Dec. 6 through Dec. 8, and the Saturday performance will be a traditional feature of Christmas in the Heart of Charleston.

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Jazz Combos prepare for final concert of semester

By Ave Rio
Staff Reporter | @DEN_News

The students that make up Eastern's Jazz Combos will perform a variety of music in the Theatre of the Doudna Fine Arts Center at 7:30 p.m. on Dec. 3. Admission to the concert will be free of charge.

This will be the Jazz Combo's third and final formal concert of the fall semester.

The three combos will each be performing three selections of music at the concert. They will be performing songs such as "Eye of the Hurricane" by Herbie Hancock and "Take Five" by Dave Brubeck, Paul Johnston, the coordinator for two of the bands, said.

The program will also include an original composition by David Perez Delgado, a junior music major. His original song is titled "Night's Lament."

The different selections of each combo will feature different student soloists, Johnston added.

All bands in the Jazz Combos have piano, bass and drums at the heart, with different instrumentation on top of that, Johnston said. Students will also be performing on instruments such as saxophone, trumpet, trombone, guitar and violin, he added.

There are three bands that make up the Jazz Combos, each containing about five to eight members.



FILE PHOTO | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Michael Eckardt performs "Dear Old Stockholm" by Miles Davis with the Vanguard Quintet during the EIU Jazz Combos on Oct. 26, 2012 in the Doudna Fine Arts Center's The Theatre. Each combo group performed three pieces.

Johnston is the coordinator of two of the bands and Nick Tucker, a bass instructor, coaches the other.

Some students interested in jazz also join the Jazz Ensemble, which is a much larger group. The Jazz En-

semble has an average of about 16-18 members whereas the Jazz Combos can have as few as three to eight

students in each band.

Johnston said the Jazz Combos focuses on improvisation.

"The combos give students a chance to perform their own compositions and arrangements," he said.

The combos perform regularly on campus and around the community. Each performance gives students a chance to improve, Johnston said.

With the upcoming concert being the band's third official performance of the semester, Johnston said he has seen a lot of growth in the students.

"It is rewarding to see each group develop over the course of the semester," Johnston said.

Johnston said there is also a great advantage to performing in front of people.

"Whenever you add an audience, that adds a new dynamic," he said.

He also said it gives students additional real life experience.

"It is an important element in music that really can't be replicated in the rehearsal room," he said.

Johnston said he was excited for people to hear the band for their last performance.

"It's nice to share what we have been working on," he added.

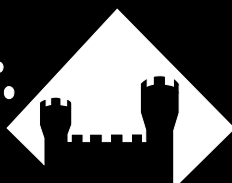
Ave Rio can be reached at 581-2812 or agrio@eiu.edu.

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» **RAINBOW**CONTINUED FROM PAGE1

The performers were not confined to the runway, however.

In a gold outfit with ribbons draping downward, Mann slipped off the stage to give the audience members hugs throughout her performance.

Extravagant clothing was a common theme throughout the performance, with the attire ranging from a fishnet-stocking outfit to a red hood wrapped around like a blanket.

Each of the performers moved with quick, carefully choreographed movements, but still left room for improvisation with the audience as they made their way from the stage to the aisles.

Music also played a big role in the show, with multiple songs often being spliced together for a single performance.

Whether it was Calexus Carrington with Destiny's Child's "Say My Name" or Ceduxion Carrington with Lady Gaga's "Applause," each of the performers lip-synched the songs that resonated throughout the University Ballroom.

Ceduxion Carrington played two roles in Monday's performance, both as the mistress of ceremonies and as a performer.

In a multi-colored outfit, Ceduxion Carrington moved on the stage, with fluid, rapid arm and leg movements. Culminating in a sprint to a cartwheel to a handspring, Ceduxion Carrington finished off the move with splits to the sound of a roaring audience.

At the end of the first set of solo performances, every one of the performers came together to re-enact scenes from the film "Pitch Perfect." Lip-synching the lines, the group broke into several of the songs from the film – all to the sound of cheerful applause.



CHYNNA MILLER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS
Aurora Lamont-Carrington sings to the audience during Monday's Diva Drag Show in the Grand Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

Jaclyn Smith, a senior finance and accounting major, said she comes to the drag show each year she has been at Eastern.

"It's a great way to show awareness and show how the real world is," she said.

Ceduxion Carrington said the LGBTQA community is one of the

strongest communities out there.

Awareness raisers for thing such as breast cancer and sickle cell anemia only draw a few supporters from the particular group, she said. However, when it is about LGBTQA, the support from every gender, race and ethnicity is overwhelming.

Calexus Carrington said she joined

the group about nine years previous, after watching numerous performances.

She said Ceduxion Carrington helped get her into the show, and said her favorite part about performing was the crowd energy.

"That's what it's about," Calexus Carrington said. "It's about entertaining."

She said the show was also about creating awareness.

"It's just getting it out there," Calexus Carrington said. "It's creating awareness, and it just spreads."

Bob Galuski can be reached at 581-2812 or dennewsdesk@gmail.com.

» **ALARM** CONTINUED FROM PAGE1

Assistant Fire Chief Steve Bennett of the Charleston Fire Department said he did not know too much about the situation and the Eastern facility workers and those who are in charge of Greek Court would look deeper it into finding a solution to the problem.

Matt Brown, the associate director of Housing and Dining Services for Residential Facilities, will be will working with the Eastern safety office and the fire department to resolve the issue.

Mark Hudson, the director of University Housing and Dining Services said, despite having the alarms for a number of years, the concerns being brought forth were new.

He said he often gets complaints that the alarms are too loud.

"I want to know is this system performing the way it's supposed to be performing," Hudson said. "If it isn't then we'll obviously make sure we fix it."

Hudson said they are going to assess how many horns there are in the building, what the decimal range is coming off of each horn, set the

building alarm off and then they'll go to different rooms and shut the doors and do a pillow test.

During the pillow test, they will be taking a decimal reader by a pillow to determine the acceptable range, which will wake most people up.

He mentioned there are more high-tech options available, however that does not mean that the current system is doing what's its supposed to be doing.

For buildings like Stevenson Hall, there are alarms in every room in the building. The Tri-Sigma house does not have these features.

"If someone hears the alarm go off be aware, knock on doors, make sure people are aware that those things are going on," Hudson said.

Hudson said they are constantly bringing in updates and when they were working on the sprinkler system upgrade in 2003 and the speaker systems were not available.

"Well it varies by building and based on the size of the building and the number of units you have to do," Hudson said on how much it installation would be for a new system. "Ev-

ery building is a little bit different based on what its makeup is."

"I would have never woken up if my suitemate didn't wake me up," said Yazmin Rodriguez, a sophomore sociology major who lives in the Tri-Sigma house.

During a Student Senate meeting Rodriguez brought the issue to Hudson's attention when he was talk about the room and board rates.

Rodriguez said she is worried if an alarm ever did go off in the building no one would be able to hear it from his or her bedroom.

She said she did take her concern to President Perry's attention during "Pizza with the Prez."

Hudson said during Thanksgiving break, the faculty members who will be working are going to go out and do sampling in different places and figure out what the issue is.

Holly Robish, a member of Tri-Sigma, said the alarms are important and may end up saving someone's life – it is important it works.

"Part of me is like, 'No I'm not worried,'" she said. "But you always have that mentality 'Oh, that's not

going to be me.'"

Robish said she posted on the house page telling everyone the fire alarm went off earlier in the morning and only three people from the house came outside.

Rodriguez said she is going to keep focusing the issue until it is solved.

"We're going to keep addressing it," said Rodriguez. "Hopefully they can do a check for every other house in Greek Court as well."

Stacey Catterson can be reached at 581-2812 or secatterson@eiu.edu.

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» **DUI** CONTINUED FROM PAGE1

Lawson's case was originally set to take place earlier this year, but was delayed due to her pregnancy.

Leffler was scheduled to graduate from Eastern in December 2012 with a bachelor's degree in family and consumer science, and was a former member of the Alpha Gamma Delta Sorority on campus.

Jackie Alexander, an Eastern graduate and one of Leffler's close friends in Alpha Gamma Delta, said she was pleased to hear the case was finally coming to a close, saying she hoped it would help the Leffler family find some sense of closure in the wake of their daughter's death.

Since the accident, the Leffler family has worked extensively to implement a mix of vehicle and late-night pedestrian traffic laws in bar-heavy downtown Bloomington. Only seven weeks before Leffler was killed, another pedestrian was seriously injured in a hit-and-run accident at the same intersection in Bloomington.

Robert Downen can be reached at 581-2812 or at dennewsdesk@gmail.com

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Junior guard Dylan Chatman makes a drive to the basket in a game on Wednesday in Lantz Arena. The Panthers beat the Tigers 67-60.

Panthers’ defense among OVC’s best

Anthony Catezone
Sports Editor | @AnthonyCatz

There is only one defense among the Ohio Valley Conference ranks that is ahead of the Eastern men’s basketball team.

The Panthers are surrendering 66 points per game and allowing opponents to shoot 42 percent from the field in the first three games. Both statistics rank second in the OVC to only Eastern Kentucky.

Eastern kept Illinois-Chicago below that 42 percent average, as the Flames shot 40 percent from the field in a 20-point loss to the Panthers Saturday.

Eastern is also first in the conference in blocks per game with 7.3, following a nine-block-performance against Illinois-Chicago.

But as consistent as the defense has been, it was the offense that led the way for the Panthers in their 86-66 win over the Flames.

Eastern shot season highs in field goal percentage (57.1), 3-point field goal percentage (64.3) and free throw percentage (77.8).

This is the same Eastern team that shot 30 percent from the field, 11 percent from 3-point range and 55 percent from the free throw line in its season-opening loss to Northwestern.

Eastern had seven players score eight or more points in the win, with guard Reggie Smith leading the way with a game-high 23.

Forward Josh Piper was the only other player to score in double-digits with 10 points, but Keenen Anderson, Alex Austin and Dylan Chatman all score nine points apiece, while forward Sherman Blanford followed with eight.

Eastern is averaging 69.3 points per game this season, eighth in the OVC.

Upset win

Belmont beat No. 12 ranked North Carolina 83-80 in Chapel Hill, N.C., Sunday.

Senior guard J.J. Mann made a go-ahead 3-pointer with 13.1 seconds remaining, lifting the Bruins to an 83-80 win over the Tar Heels on Sunday in the Hall of Fame Tipoff.

Mann finished with a career-high 28 points, with the last basket giving the Bruins an 81-80 lead. Following a missed shot from North Carolina’s J.P. Tokoto, Caleb Chowbay scored on a breakaway layup for the Bruins with 0.2 seconds left that sent Belmont players storming onto the court to celebrate at the buzzer.

With the Bruins trailing by two with just 20 seconds remaining, Belmont’s Reece Chamberlain brought the ball up court where he passed it to Mann, who let off a straight-away shot over Tokoto.

He said he was “about 99 percent sure it was going in” before he even made the shot.

“It’s something you dream about as a kid,

and something that you pretend this summer in the gym,” Mann said in a press release. “You’re saying, ‘All right, game winner against North Carolina, here you go.’ And then it happens. It’s just unbelievable.”

But Mann and the Bruins still had help from the Tar Heels, who missed 26 free throws in the game, shooting just 45.8 percent from the free throw line.

It was North Carolina’s first home loss to a non-conference opponent since losing to Illinois eight years ago.

“There aren’t great victories unless you beat great programs,” Belmont coach Rick Byrd said in a press release. “It’s a big moment right now for us.”

Player of the Week

Belmont’s J.J. Mann won the Ohio Valley Conference Player of the Week, as he averaged 18.3 points, seven rebounds, two assists and 1.7 steals in the Bruins three games, led by his 28-point, nine-rebound performance in the upset over North Carolina.

Mann hit three 3-points in the final minute of the game, scoring 11 of the Bruins final 13 points, while erasing an eight-point deficit with 2:37 left to play.

Anthony Catezone can be reached at 581-2812 or ajcatezone@eiu.edu.



Anthony Catezone
@AnthonyCatz

Smith as good as advertised

By Anthony Catezone
Sports Editor | @AnthonyCatz

Can it be true? Is Eastern’s Reggie Smith living up to the hype? It appears so.

The UNLV transfer is averaging 21 points per game, second in the Ohio Valley Conference, along with three assists, two rebounds and two steals per game, while averaging 30 minutes of playing time.

In just two games, Smith has brought a spark to a lackadaisical men’s basketball team that has had an absence of offensive firepower in recent years.

This may be the exact definition of jumping the gun, but it can’t help but be something in the back of Eastern fans’ minds. Just think, if this is what early-season form looks like for Smith, who, before this season began, did not play an NCAA game for 20 straight months, then what possibly could mid-season form for Smith bring to Lantz Arena?

I’ll tell you what, dunks.

And not the same kind of dunks a 7-foot-2 Mat Piotrowski brings to Lantz Arena. The red-shirt junior guard stands 6-feet tall accompanied with a 40-something-inch vertical leap. Clearly, these are highlight reel dunks and plays. YouTube: “Reggie Smith’s monster dunk during UNLV first look” or “Reggie Smith Thornton High School.”

You will not be disappointed.

Granted that was more than a year and a half ago, but so far, it does not seem like Smith has missed a step this season. At 2-1, Eastern coach Jay Spoonhour has reiterated that Smith would need to take shots for the Panthers to win. In the two games he has played, Smith has taken 29 shot attempts — 10 more than any other player — and 26 free throw attempts, also a team-high.

Anthony Catezone can be reached at 581-2812 or ajcatezone@eiu.edu.

For the in-depth version of this column go to:
dailyeasternnews.com

Howarth acknowledges Illinois teams efforts

By Blake Nash
Staff Reporter | @DEN_Sports

Even though her team did not win its meet on Friday, Eastern cross country coach Erin Howarth acknowledges the fact that the state of Illinois was represented well at the NCAA Midwest Regional.

“On the men’s side, Illinois, Southern Illinois-Carbondale, Bradley, Illinois State and Eastern were five of the top 17 teams,” Howarth said.

On the women’s side, it was even deeper with Carbondale, Bradley, Illinois, Northwestern, Illinois State and Loyola representing six of the top 12 spots.

“It is easy to say that the state of Illinois is the deepest state in the region,” Howarth said.

The host school Iowa State University saw its women’s team win its fourth consecutive championship at the regional. The Cyclones became the first team to accomplish that feat since 1997. All of their scored runners finished within 30 seconds of each other.

Other Big 12 Conference schools fared well at the regional, including Oklahoma State and Kansas. Oklahoma State won the men’s meet, while the women’s team finished third. Three members of the Oklahoma State men’s team finished within

tenths of seconds of each other.

Seniors Thomas Farrell and Shadrack Kipchirchir finished at 30:36.3 and 30:36.6, respectively, and were followed by sophomore Craig Nowak at 30:36.9 for Oklahoma State.

The Kansas Jayhawks both finished in the top five, with the men’s and women’s teams finishing in fifth place. Eastern had one runner that received conference honors as sophomore Victoria Quarton finished as an Ohio Valley Conference second-team member.

Eastern’s season ended on Friday and for the seniors it might have been their last race, aside from the NCAA Championships at noon Saturday in Terre Haute, Ind. Ryan Ballard, Matt Black, Danny Delaney, Mike Hesslau, Brian Mateas, Pablo Ramirez, William Roth, Gaby Duenas-Delaney and Emily Pedziwiatr are all seniors that will leave for graduation.

However, some of these seniors may not be finished running this year. Some of the cross country runners will be joining Eastern’s indoor track team, which begins its season next month at the EIU Early Bird at Lantz Fieldhouse on Dec. 7.

Blake Nash can be reached at 581-2812 or banash@eiu.edu.



Freshman biology major Cassy Shaffer runs in the Walt Crawford Open on Spet. 6 on the Panther Trail. The women’s cross country team finished second out of the 13 teams competing.

JASON HOWELL | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS



DOMINIC BAIMA | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Senior quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo kisses the Ohio Valley Conference championship trophy after Saturday's game against Jacksonville State University at O'Brien Field.

GRADING THE PANTHERS

QUARTERBACK

A Jimmy Garoppolo did not wow with spectacular numbers for the second straight game. But for the second straight game, he did not need to. With the running attack Eastern had, anyone could have been in at quarterback. Actually, Shepard Little threw a 10-yard touchdown pass. Little is a running back. Who did he throw to? Garoppolo. When Garoppolo was in, he still threw for two touchdowns and 169 yards on 15-of-24 passes in extremely windy conditions, all while missing the final 10 minutes of the game.

DEFENSE

A Jacksonville State fumbled four times and the Eastern defense recovered three. The first came on the first play of the game, setting up the Panthers' first touchdown. The Gamecocks entered with the best running game in the OVC, but it was second-best in O'Brien Field as the Panthers' defensive line dominated the line of the scrimmage, holding them to 37 yards in the first half. Eastern also kept Jacksonville State's quarterbacks to 98 yards and a 36.4 completion percentage.

RUNNING BACKS

A++ The running game outdid itself last week with 303 yards, when we asked if there was any grade more than an 'A+'. Well, this week, there needs to be a grade more than that. The Panthers ran for a school record 413 yards and four touchdowns with a 7.3-yard-per-carry average, outshining the Ohio Valley Conference's top rushing attack that had just 155 yards. That was all made possible by Shepard Little who rushed for a career-high 245 yards and two touchdowns, behind a staggering 9.4 average.

SPECIAL TEAMS

A What can't Jimmy Garoppolo do? For the second straight game the All-American punted and again it was downed inside the five-yard line. This time it settled at the one, pinning the Gamecocks back near their end zone. Scott Weatherford also did a good job handling the gusty wind conditions and did not allow a return on either of his punts. Kicker Cameron Berra was made 1-of-2 field goal attempts, but he gets a pass on the miss because of the 20 mph winds. A steady job done by the third phase of the Panthers gets them an A for their effort.

WIDE RECEIVERS

B+ Similar to the quarterback grade, Jimmy Garoppolo caught a touchdown pass in double-coverage. That alone is enough for a 'B+'. As everybody knows, Garoppolo is a quarterback. Erik Lora was without a touchdown, but still hauled in five catches for 93 yards. The group caught three touchdowns as a whole, as seven different Panthers caught a pass. Despite not having one breakout player statistically, the receiving corps did a routinely solid job, while not dropping a single pass.

COACHING

A+ The game was over after Eastern won the coin toss and deferred to the second half, taking the wind to start the game. A steady 25-mph wind was blowing in O'Brien Field and seeing that the Gamecocks wanted to stop Eastern's passing game, Dino Babers ran the ball early and often. After a record 35-point first quarter, the Panthers had already accumulated 193 rushing yards. The fast start led to smooth sailing for the Panthers. Babers ended up drenched in Gatorade, but he'll gladly take it with a second consecutive OVC title.

GRADED BY ANTHONY CATEZONE AND ALDO SOTO
GRAPHIC BY KAYLIE HOMANN

Top 3 teams in FCS remain firm in polls

By Aldo Soto
Assistant Sports Editor | @AldoSoto21

The Eastern football team wrapped up its fifth outright Ohio Valley Conference title with its 52-14 win over Jacksonville State Saturday at home.

The win officially pole-vaulted the Panthers into the FCS playoffs, winning their automatic berth with the conference championship.

At 10-1 overall and 7-0 in the OVC, the Panthers still remain ranked No. 2 in the FCS behind North Dakota State, which won its third straight Missouri Valley Football Conference title Saturday.

The Bison continued their undefeated season with a 35-17 win against No. 15 Youngstown State. North Dakota State clinched its conference championship, improving to 7-0 in the MVFC and 10-0 overall behind quarterback Brock Jensen.

The senior quarterback threw four touchdown passes and added a one-yard rushing touchdown with 6:10 remaining in the fourth quarter to seal North Dakota's win.

Following halftime, the Bison were leading 14-10, but Jensen threw touchdown passes in their first two possessions of the second half to give North Dakota State a 28-10 lead with 6:26 left

in the third quarter.

Youngstown State scored its last touchdown with 18 seconds remaining in the third quarter, but did not get any closer to the Bison.

Jensen's four touchdown passes brought his career total to 62, which set a new school-record, passing the previous mark of 60 set by Steve Walker. Jensen finished the game 17-of-22 for 200 yards with his four touchdown passes.

The Bison rushed for 283 yards, led by Sam Ojuri, who 146 on 17 carries. John Crockett added 120 yards on 15 attempts.

Eastern Washington won its seventh straight game and clinched the Big Sky

championship, scoring five unanswered touchdowns in the second and third quarters to beat Cal Poly 35-22.

After a Mario Brown 34-yard touchdown run with 3:37 left in the third quarter, Eastern Washington went ahead 35-3. In the fourth quarter Cal Poly responded with 19 points, but it was not enough to catch up to the Eagles.

Eastern Washington is now 9-2 overall and has a perfect 7-0 conference record and remained the No. 3 ranked team in the FCS.

The rest of the top-10 teams in the FCS coaches poll were shuffled, starting with Sam Houston State, which entered

its game against No. 14 Southern Louisiana ranked No. 4.

The Bearcats lost 34-21 to the Lions after having a 21-17 lead at halftime. Southern Louisiana quarterback Bryan Bennett threw three touchdowns and running back Marquis Haynes added another touchdown to keep the Lions undefeated in conference play (6-0).

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